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THE FLYER

Salisbury University's student voice

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Housing problem grows with SU student numbers

BY AJIA ALLEN
Staff Writer

Salisbury University educates more than 9,000 undergraduate and graduate students with less than 30 percent of those students housed on campus.

Considered a small school, SU is undertaking expansion projects to accommodate housing for its growing number of admitted students. A projected finalized construction date for the newest off-campus housing community, University Orchard, is planned for the fall of 2013.

University Orchard, located at 106 Farmers Market Lane, will be home to a number of students as the number of enrollees steadily increases.

Available on-campus housing used to accommodate students with a variety of earned credit hours preceding the fall 2012 semester. Freshmen, sophomores, juniors and even a few seniors enjoyed the convenience of on-campus living.

As the freshmen class of 2016 moved in, SU's Campus Housing and Residence Life offices took into consideration the interests of the newest accepted attendees.

"Transfer students and incoming freshmen numbered past 1,300 for school year 2012-2013," said Aaron Basko, assistant vice president for enrollment management.

Freshmen make up the majority of residents living on campus, along with a number of sophomores and other students positioned as resident assistants and resident directors.

Students who lived on campus during the 2011-2012 school year were informed that they would have to seek other options for housing. Off-campus communities will gain a large amount of new residents.

Popular off-campus housing options include University Park, University Village, Cynthia's Place and Seagull Village. Students tend to prefer accommodations close to campus and find relative convenience with these options.

However, space is limited as the majority of students initially look to the most popular options first.

Prices range between \$350 and \$675 a month for rent payments among the popular off-campus living communities.

The recent on-campus housing shift leaves some students at odds. Was the shift in on-campus housing priority fair?

"I believe that it was unfair for students to move off campus last semester because the majority of upperclassmen were housed on campus until they were juniors," said Tondrea Conaway, an SU undergraduate junior.

Others believe the university makes good efforts through its

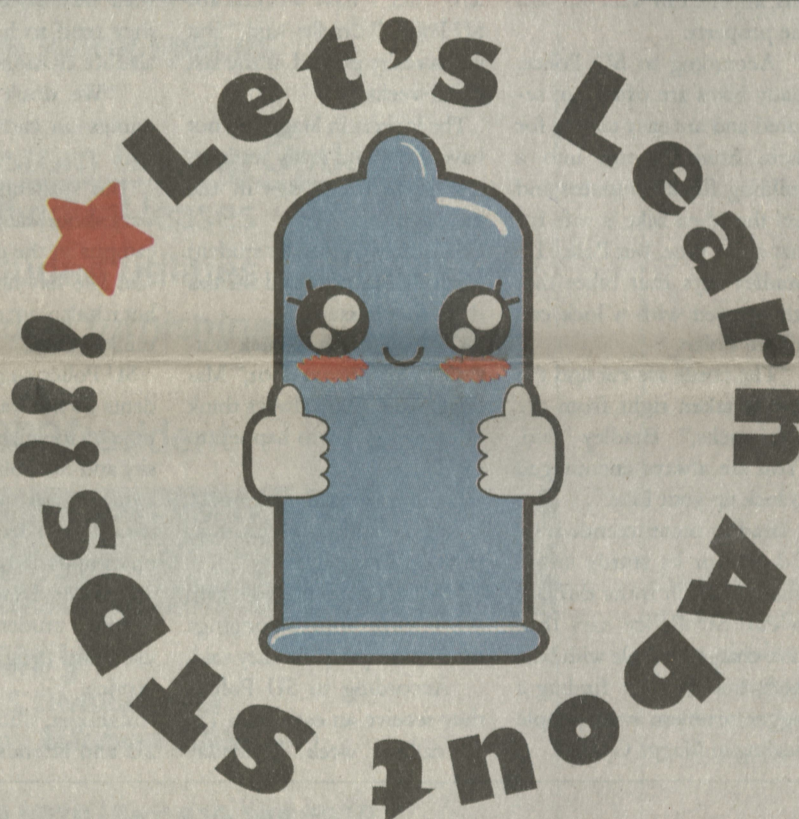
See HOUSING on Pg. 2

Sexual education carnival breaks STD stigma at SU

The SU health center sees around 1,000 students a year for it (that's 1 in 6).

19 million new sexually transmitted infections occur each year among 15-24 year olds.

The most common STD in college students is chlamydia. The most common STD in the US is HPV.



1 in 2 college students nationwide have an STD (18-24 years old).

STDs are more common in women than men (because they often show no visible symptoms).

Wicomico County has one of the highest rates of STDs in MD (along with Montgomery and Baltimore counties).

BY SAVANNAH ISNER
Staff Writer

Despite the reputation Salisbury University has attained over the years, current students and faculty members are putting an end to the sexually transmitted disease talk by encouraging everyone to be safe and knowledgeable about sex.

"When I tell people I go to Salisbury one of the things they usually ask me is 'doesn't that school have a lot of STDs,'" junior Christine McFarlane said.

The SU campus has a stigma that its students have a greater chance of getting STDs, but studies have shown that although the national average is high, the campus' numbers have actually decreased.

"I think the rumors started because we are trying to put it out there and not be the Ostrich with our head in the sands," said Jennifer Berkman, director of Health Services on campus. "It's not that we have any more or any less; the difference is we talk about it."

Nationwide, 1 in 2 college students have either had an STD previously or currently have one, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Berkman said they see two different kinds of cases dealing with STDs: clinical issues and non-problematic issues such as not

using a condom or having sex under the influence.

"We screen about 1,000 students a year, which would equal 1 in 6 students," Berkman said. "We know there are more that need to be screened."

Among college students the most common STD found is Chlamydia, a bacterial disease that is curable with treatment. Berkman said college is typically the time people have more partners, being the "age of experimentation," which can lead to a higher risk for these diseases.

"It's really a nip and tuck between HPV and Chlamydia," Berkman said, referring to the types of STDs students come in with. "Although Chlamydia is curable, HPV isn't."

About 65 percent of college students are sexually active and only 25 percent of students use of contraception. In order to get the message out and hopefully inform as many students as possible about keeping their bodies safe, Senior Public Relations Practicum student Asianne Martin put on a Sexual Health Education and Self-Awareness Carnival.

"All of this is to celebrate World AIDS day that's happening on Dec. 1," Martin said.

World AIDS day is "an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the

See STD on Pg. 2

Violent crime in Salisbury scares students, community

BY MOLLY FELDMAN AND SARAH KRAUSS
Staff Writer and News Editor

Recent violent crimes in the Salisbury community have alarmed locals and students with concern for their possessions and safety.

Salisbury University students in particular have received an increased number of emails from SU Police, which have warned them of home invasion robberies in college student housing. According to the email sent out to students, "one of the victims heard a knock on the door, and upon opening the door two men forced their way into the residence. Both intruders were armed with handguns."

Although the only physical damage that resulted from the altercation was stolen property, such events shake student's faith in their safety at school. SU Police have urged students to "keep windows and doors locked at all times," and for students

to be weary of opening the door for strangers and to identify the persons before letting anyone inside.

Salisbury Police recognized the spike of burglaries in their quarterly review. According to the review, "the number of robberies has increased over the same period last year... all areas of the City have experienced burglaries and they remain a valid concern especially in the college housing neighborhoods."

Salisbury Police have increased their presence in the neighborhoods that experience the most thefts. However, just a few weeks after the aforementioned home invasion, students were informed of a robbery turned violent crime taking place just blocks away from SU's campus.

Two men were shot during an armed robbery on Margaret Street, which is located approximately one mile from campus and amidst hous-

See CRIME on Pg. 2



Graphic by Adora Bowman

SU aids Crisfield, Md., in wake of hurricane

BY TAYLOR COLBERT
Staff Writer

When Hurricane Sandy hit the Eastern Shore, it left a trail of fallen trees, debris and many residents without power, behind.

One community close to Salisbury University, the small town of Crisfield, Md., was hit especially hard.

Crisfield, located in Somerset County, is home to almost 3,000 people. In the wake of Sandy, businesses closed, neighborhoods were destroyed and hundreds of residents were left without power and resources.

"Shock settled into the community right after the hurricane struck," said Katelyn Hall, Crisfield resident and SU senior. "The flood damage alone just consumed the town."

In preparation for the super-storm, Crisfield locals boarded the windows of their homes and businesses, and many evacuated the area until further notice. Volunteers ventured out to the homes of residents who could not vacate on their own, helping them gather their belongings and move to safer ground.

Despite the devastation to the community, the people of Crisfield have reached out to help one another and relief efforts have not

stopped.

"Even though the storm hit us very hard," Hall said, "we have become stronger as a community, and we're working hard to fix the damages."

Aside from the rebuilding within the community, Crisfield has also received aid from outside sources, including efforts from SU. The SU Social Work Department is collecting items like canned food, clothing, toys and toiletries for Crisfield residents.

"I think that our town is truly blessed to have all of the help that has been given to us," Hall said. "I'd like to give special thanks to SU for

coming down to help our town. It shows that our campus cares about other communities and it's always willing to lend a helping hand."

For more information on how to help Crisfield, or to make a donation to the relief fund, call the Crisfield Chamber of Commerce at (410) 968-2500, or "like" Crisfield, MD on Facebook.

STD

fight against HIV," according to their website.

Martin said she had someone in her family who suffered from an STD and wanted to make sure everyone becomes aware of ways to prevent it.

Brandy Nobling, a human sexuality teacher, spoke during the event to try and educate students.

"We just want college students to be aware of sexual practices and behavior," Nobling said. "We wanted an environment where the students are comfortable talking about the issues."

The carnival included a table from Pure Romance, a company for women, by women, and a lot of on-campus organizations such as WXSU DJing the event, Public Relations Student Society of America, Pi Lambda Phi and Zeta.

Heather Giovenco, a junior and sister in Zeta, said the carnival was a good opportunity for their soror-

ity to get involved and help students learn about something they are passionate about: breast cancer awareness.

"We had 20-plus girls come and learn about how to get self-examined," Giovenco said. "We just want people to be aware."

Because the carnival was located in the Link of Nations in Guerrieri University Center, there was a lot of foot traffic and opportunities for students to learn. Martin said there was a good turnout and people seemed to enjoy how interactive the learning was.

"This was a chance for people to see that Student Health Services does a lot more than students think," Martin said.

More information about safe sex, STDs and general health questions can be answered by calling or visiting Health Services located in Halloway Hall.

HOUSING

housing procedures.

"I feel like the university works hard to place students on campus and with people that they will get along

with," said Samira Burris, RA for the on-campus housing complex Sea Gull Square. "In recent years, the university has become so popular that we can't house everyone on campus that's why we expanded."

Senior and commuter, Rachel Harris, feels similarly to Burris about on-campus accommodations, yet is uncertain of the level of off-campus assistance and referral.

"On campus, I think they do a good job rooming people together that have stuff in common so they are more compatible," Harris said. "Off campus, I'm really not familiar."

SU's enrollment records reveal that the school's student population has continued to grow since 2001. Campus Housing and Residence Life continues to work

toward solutions for accommodation of the school's increasing student numbers.

University Orchard's space availability may help lessen incoming students' concerns. According to the off-campus community website, four-bedroom, four-bathroom and two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments are available for a price range between \$715 and \$775.

University Orchard will have the shuttle service provided for the community like University Village and University Park. An added destination increases the campus shuttle time to make a complete round trip.

In comparison to other popular off-campus communities, the Orchard's cost is at least \$100 higher.

Considering the options presented for non-freshmen students who attend SU, the increase in cost may not appeal to them or their parents. But the value and convenience of available housing availability may exceed the costs.

"In comparison to other popular off-campus communities, the Orchard's cost is at least \$100 higher."

CRIME

ing which students rent. According to WUSA News, "Police say they believe six to eight men were walking down the street when four of them walked toward the victims. Two of them, who were armed, demanded money, say state police."

One of the victims died from the injuries received during the robbery. SU students, especially those in off-campus housing, were shaken by the news of such crimes occurring near the university.

SU Senior Megan Cohen said she does not feel safe at school because of the crime notices sent out frequently.

"It concerns me because I have some classes at night and afterward I have to walk out to my car in the parking lot alone," Cohen said.

She, like many other stu-

dents, lives off campus, where the reality of home invasions and violent crimes are greater.

"If I know what is going on around me I will have a better chance of seeing any threatening situations and avoiding them," Cohen said.

SU's campus has been subject to the same increases in crime this semester, albeit significantly less dangerous ones. Within the current calendar year, the university has had its biggest increase in bicycle thefts. Maggs Gym has also become the most common location of on-campus robberies.

"There is usually a spike in thefts in May and November which are the end of the semesters," SU Police Lt. Sandy Bradley said. "I can't say why."

The suspects are a mixture of students and non-students.

Because SU is an open campus, anyone can walk through the property.

According to SU Police, many bikes are often not secured and are easy targets for theft. Students run into a building for 20 minutes and feel that their bike is safe for that short time, but Police Lt. Bradley says that bikes that are secured with a lock can still be stolen.

"The cords are cut and the bike is taken right from the bike racks," Bradley said. "You are always encouraged to lock up your bike."

Bradley recommended the U-Lock for its sturdy metal, which is much more difficult to cut. SU Police says they have charged people with bike theft, but they are finding a bigger problem with people stealing in Maggs Gym.

"It has always been a problem since I have worked for SU Police," Bradley said. "But it has really peaked in the last three weeks."

The lockers in Maggs do not have locks, and many students just leave their bags in the hallways.

Salisbury University student Michelle Malingier said she has done that herself.

"I leave my backpack outside the bathroom door," Malingier said. "You always think it's never going to happen to me."

Bradley advised students to be more cautious about their personal belongings.

"To the extent that you can, don't leave your belongings out in the open," Bradley said.

According to SU Police, they receive an estimated 15-20 calls a week. Thursday

night and Friday morning are their busiest time and when they tend to hand out more alcohol citations.

"We don't have violent crimes on campus," Bradley said.

But students can become wary about walking around on campus in the dark. Malingier said she has not felt unsafe, but it's also not something she thinks about.

SU Police suggests that students do not walk alone at any time of the night. The university and SU Police have an escort program, where students who do not feel safe walking on campus can get a ride from an officer. But according to Bradley, students have misused the program as a taxi service.

Malingier, who commutes to SU and attends a night class

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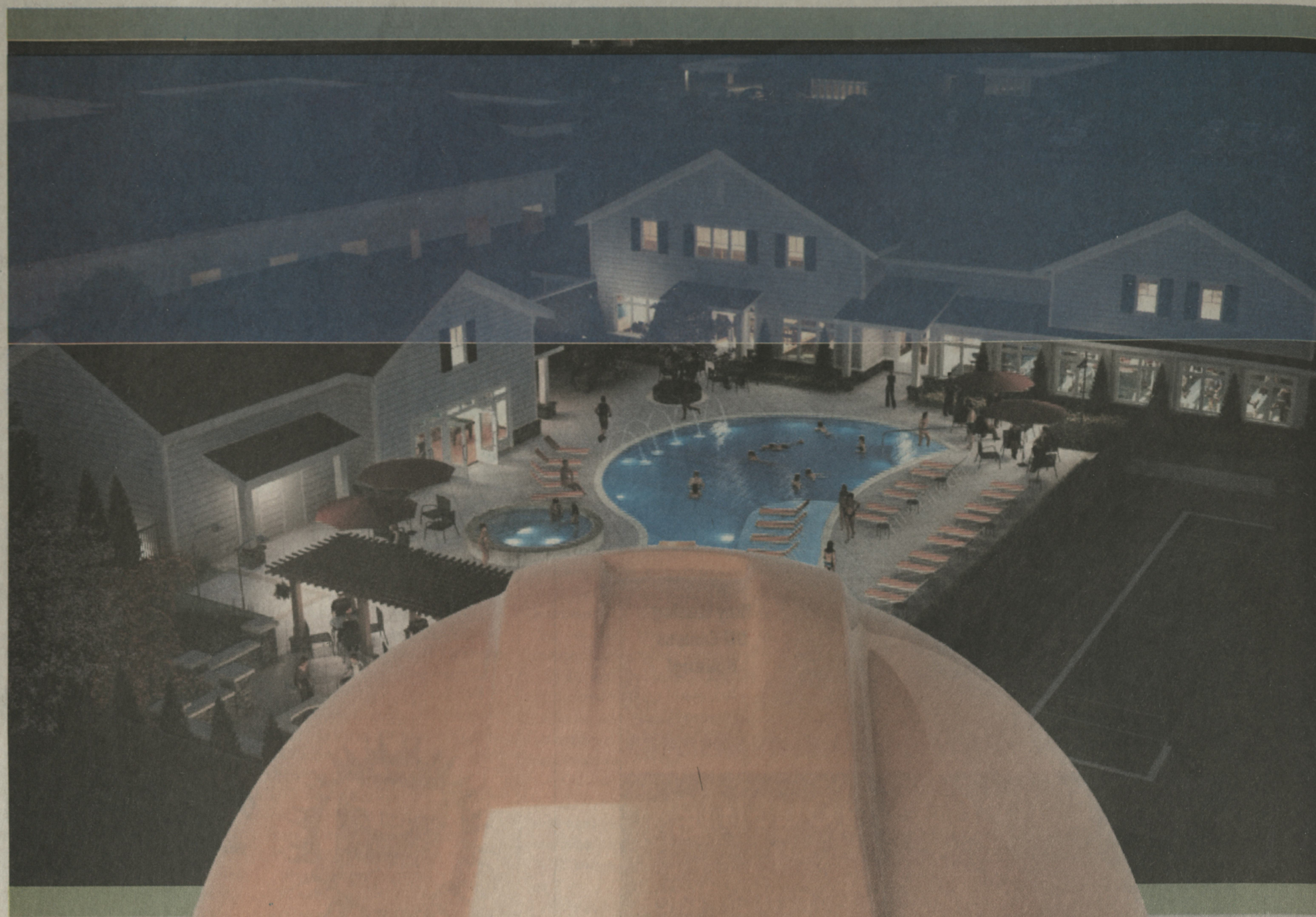
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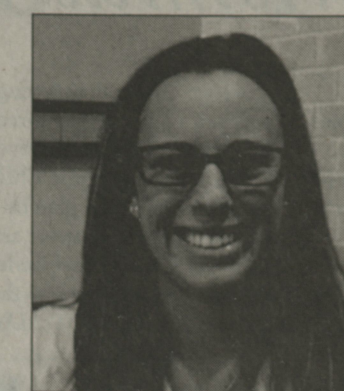
EDITORIAL

December 4, 2012

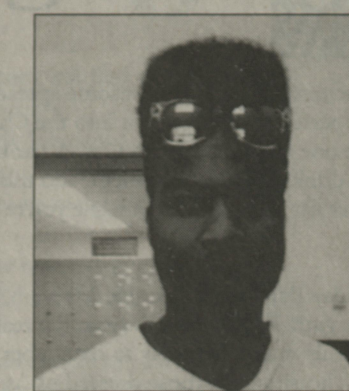
Overheard: What will your New Year's resolution be?



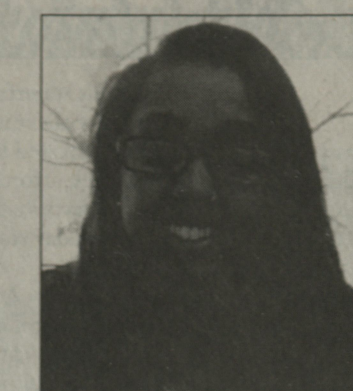
"To get straight A's."
-Tyler Gruzs, Senior



"To spend more time on school work."
-Melissa Ruck, Junior



"To take more time to work out at the gym."
-James Price, Senior



"To drink less."
-Aanchal Singh, Senior



"To make at least one new friend and make a positive impact on their life."
-Jess Talent, Junior

An inconvenient truth in the parking garage



BY PETE
HICKS
Editor-in-Chief

Having to park all the way across Route 13 in the Bateman Street parking garage already creates a hassle for students when it comes to getting to class, so you would think that the university would do everything that they could to make it a quick and simple process.

You would be wrong. The parking garage has a fatal flaw that causes massive backups of traffic throughout the morning hours during the week. The barriers that control access in and out of the parking garage are an

unnecessary hassle that stops the flow of vehicles around the already convoluted roads that surround the garage and make students late for classes.

The barriers rise up when students who have parking permits for the garage swipe their Gull Card, but this is pointless since all of the students who have the permits also have stickers on their cars that denote their right to park there. With university police officers patrolling the garage like they patrol campus, they can easily spot and give tickets to anyone who is illegally parked.

There have been many days when the barriers were broken or out of order and students could move freely in and out of the parking garage with no negative consequences. In fact, for the first few weeks of the semester the barriers were never lowered. But when the barriers are down, the time it takes for each driver to swipe their card, have the bar raise, drive through into the garage and have the bar lower again will leave a line of cars stretch-

ing down both Bateman Street and Wayne Street, leaving students late and local motorists trapped.

If students have other ways besides swiping their Gull Cards to prove they can park in the garage, then what other reasons could there be for this obviously unnecessary obstacle? Safety cannot be the cause, because car barriers do nothing to stop the multitudes of people that walk through the parking garage every day. If somebody wants to be in there that shouldn't be, only assistance from university police could solve that problem.

Salisbury University, please make the lives of your commuting students a little bit easier and leave those barriers raised year round. Traffic on the way to class leads to disgruntled students, disgruntled students lead to bad grades, bad grades make the university look bad. Don't look bad SU, and don't try and ignore this inconvenient truth.

Our View Kerry for Secretary of State

While Congress is debating over the appropriate deal that should be made to prevent the country from going the way of Thelma and Louise, another fight is brewing in the Senate.

The second-most talked about fight in Washington is about who should replace Hillary Clinton, who is retiring after Obama's first term expires, as Secretary of State. The two frontrunners for the position are United Nations Ambassador Susan Rice and Massachusetts Senator John Kerry, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

The potential nomination of Susan Rice has generated some controversy because of the comments she made on Sunday talk shows following the Sept. 11 attacks on United States embassies in Benghazi which killed four Americans, including the U.S. Ambassador to Libya. Rice said that the intelligence she was given on the attack insinuated that it was sparked by the anti-Muslim video "Innocence of Muslims." It was later discovered that this information was inaccurate.

Despite this controversy, it should not disqualify Rice from running as Secretary of State. Humans make mistakes. All she did on the Sunday shows was tell the American people the information that she was given regarding Benghazi. Condoleezza Rice was not disqualified to be Secretary of State, despite the fact that she gave inaccurate information regarding the presence of nuclear weapons in Iraq.

However, John Kerry would be a better choice.

Since the Secretary of State is the

highest-ranked cabinet position in terms of the line of succession, and therefore the most premier cabinet post, name recognition is very important. Kerry has worldwide name recognition that Susan Rice does not have. While many may view name recognition as only a superficial feature, it is important because it would give Kerry the edge at being more effective in representing the U.S. abroad.

Kerry also has exponentially more political clout than Rice does, which would make him more able to make peace deals happen. America needs a very politically experienced Secretary of State because the next four years are going to be very important in the international sphere. We need a Secretary of State who has the political influence to conduct high-stakes talks with Iran on its nuclear program. John Kerry would simply be more able to conduct those talks with international leaders.

Kerry would be a better-reviewed choice not just by the Senate, but by the American people, millions of whom voted him for president in 2004 and by the international community. Kerry's experience in the Vietnam War, despite being wrongly and disgracefully mottled by the Bush reelection campaign in 2004, provides him with personal experiences and knowledge that Susan Rice does not have.

Susan Rice has been a wonderful UN Ambassador, and it would be best if she stays in that position for another four years. While she would be a great Secretary of State, John Kerry is the better choice at this time.

Are the victims forgotten in sex crime scandals?



BY AJA ALLEN
Staff Writer

Sex-related incidents and crimes are the most underreported issues. Sex crimes are not to be misconstrued as only including brutal rapes on women. All situations in which there is at least one victim rather than a voluntary participant as a result of a sexual act are considered molestation, harassment and otherwise a sex crime.

The recent sex scandal involving Kevin Clash, the famous puppeteer and beloved voice of Sesame Street's Elmo, has spurred controversy. Accusations and a lawsuit stating his involvement in sexual encounters with an underage boy not only made Clash's sexual orientation open for public scrutiny, but also led to his resignation from the show.

Sesame Street continues production without Clash and the accusations were dismissed as the accuser recanted his claim. Public opinion varies on the issue and on the character of Clash.

The accuser is, more or less, irrelevant in the eyes of the media though.

Perhaps his lack of affluence or

status stops him from being recognized. Perhaps the accuser's reason for making his accusations public were fully financially motivated or a former lover's revenge.

Scandal aside, the accuser could in fact have been a victim. The justice system cannot be relied on in matters of sex-related crimes because the matter is jarred in subjectivity.

It is unlikely for victims to voice their concerns or an attack at any level. Sex crimes and related acts are completely psychologically scarring, and society has yet to become fully capable of addressing the issue without further humiliating the victim.

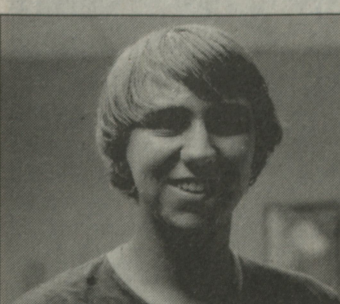
Recanted accusations during trials are usually due to limited evidence found by prosecution or pressure forced by the media. Rather than the victim being an outright liar as the defense would have it, recanting is legal justification for the offenders but not justification for the victims.

The justice system is insufficient in handling issues that are emotionally and psychologically bound. Issues relevant to the recent Sesame Street scandal show that there are many problems with acknowledging victims and their suffering.

Victims of all ages need to be heard and understood. Expressing the problem is the first step to recovery.

Inappropriate sex-related acts are highly sensitive and very relevant in today's society. Yet, the victim's voice is still silenced as if sex has now become a fully-loaded, dominating weapon.

Senate in need of filibuster reform



BY STEVEN
CENNANE
Editorial
Editor

The use of the filibuster in the Senate is at an all-time high, with the minority party using it to block virtually every bill that the Democrats are trying to put on the president's desk. This practice has made the Senate the most inefficient legislative body in the world, making the 80th Congress, which President Harry Truman referred to as the "Do-Nothing Congress," look like the most proficient Congress ever.

Democrats are now trying to fix the filibuster by turning it back into what is used to be. The filibuster used to be a practice that Senators used to

block bills that involved standing on the podium and talking for many, many hours to block legislation. The filibuster was changed with the drafting of new Senate rules in 1979. Now, all a Senator needs to do is ask for a filibuster and legislation is stalled automatically. Senators can now use the modern filibuster to prevent debates on bills, severely hampering the Senate's ability to progress legislation and get things done for the American people.

By changing the rules, Democrats, contrary to what many Republican Senators claim, are not trying to strip the filibuster to render the minority party completely powerless. What the Democrats in the Senate are planning to do is to change the filibuster back to the old form. This way, in order to invoke a filibuster, a Senator must earn it.

Under the old filibuster rules, the Senate was a much more efficient body. The rule changes would benefit both parties because if the Republicans ever do regain a majority in the Senate,

they would appreciate not having the Democrats effortlessly block every piece of legislation that the Republicans try to pass. However, when the Republicans were in power from 2002-2006, the Democrats did not invoke the filibuster nearly as many times as the Republicans have the past four years.

Filibuster reform would make Congress more able to get work done for the American people. We elected our senators and representatives to get to work, not to obstruct.

If you want to see for yourself how the filibuster used to be conducted and how the Democrats are proposing how it should work for the next Congress, I suggest watching the 1939 movie "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington." Or, go to the CSPAN video archives and watch the late Senator Wayne Morse's 1953 filibuster against the Tidelands Oil Legislation.

The Flyer

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The Flyer strives for accuracy and corrects its errors immediately. If you believe The Flyer has printed a factual error, please email us.

PARTY GIRL PROBLEMS

BY ABIGAIL COLBY
Party Girl Problems Columnist

While all that was required to get into the Christmas spirit in childhood were some carols and sugar cookies, spreading holiday cheer in college is a whole different ball game. Check out Party Girl Problems' basic guide to everything you need to know about having a jolly good time this Holiday season.

Get your Christmas garb in order

Look, it's pretty hard to spread Christmas cheer if you aren't dressed in the correct cheer-spreading attire. Santa hats simply aren't cutting it this time around. Whether it's using tinsel as hair accessories, rocking a full-blown Santa beard or dressing yourself up as a life-size Christmas present, you've got to make sure you're holding your own this season. Light-up necklaces and Santa suspenders are also a crowd pleaser, as displayed in the picture at the end of this article from the Salisbury University Holiday Party Archives circa 2011.

Know the holiday hotspots close to your hometown

Don't let being on winter break stop you from having a holiday to remember! Check out these two Christmas-themed bar events that are sure to be a good time.

For Baltimore:

Power Plant's Annual Holiday Light Show. It's held every weekend from now until New Years. Grab a drink, your friends and start mentally preparing now

for this waterfront extravaganza. This awesome spread of holiday cheer is the perfect way to get you into the Christmas spirit, located in the one and only Charm City. A bar known for their affordable drinks and entertainment, add this Baltimore favorite to your list of places to hit while you're home this holiday season.

For DC:

Santarchy: A Holiday Bar Crawl. Dec. 15, 2012. A local favorite, this gathering of Santa's from the realms of the nation's capital truly makes for a day to remember. With drink specials at DC hotspots for those dressed up as everyone's favorite fat man, this all-day holiday themed bash is sure to get you into the Santa spirit. Grab your best Santa hat and some tinsel and hit the road with this group for a good time that might even make the reindeer blush. Check out facebook.com/santarchydc for more info.

Ensure a holiday hook-up

It's getting to be the end of the night and regardless of what you happen to be wearing at this point, you're on the lookout for a "little helper" to take home. Lucky for you, the jovial holiday spirit definitely works as an advantage when looking for someone to have a truly enchanting night with. Use these three quick tips to ensure this Christmas is one for the record books.

1. Wristband mistletoe. Inexpensive, convenient and forthright. A real deal-sealer if you've been chatting someone up.
2. A costume piece exchange. What says "I've found my one

true love" more than letting someone wear your light-up necklace or Santa hat? Great way to get a conversation going or to take it to the next level.

3. Whipping out some Christmas lingo. Asking a person of interest where they plan on sleeping tonight may get you a slap in the face, however asking something along the lines of "Hey Babe, why don't we leave here in my sleigh and let the reindeer take us back to the North Pole?" may do the trick. DISCLAIMER: NOT ALWAYS EFFECTIVE



A holiday to remember: Steps to a great Christmas night

GULL LIFE

Volume 41 Issue 11 December 4, 2012

Local groups light up Delmarva

BY DYLAN CRAIG
Staff Writer

A festival full of beautiful lights, entertainment and a good cause has hit the Eastern Shore.

The first ever "Decorating Delmarva" has been underway every Thursday through Sunday night at US 13 Drayway since Nov. 15.

The festival leads visitors through a two-mile drive surrounded by a spectacle of lights and decorations. Every decoration has been set up by various businesses, schools and nonprofit organizations from the community.

The festival creators, Mark and Denis Cathell, said they want visitors to know that it is not just about the light show. The money produced is being brought back to the community through the prizes that the growing organizations can win.

"People are used to Ocean City, where you only get a tram ride through a lightshow, this is much more than that. We have over 120 acres and have been working on this for the past two years," Cathell said.

Visitors are able to vote for the nonprofit organization they think set up the best lights, giving monetary prizes to places such as local schools, fire companies and churches. Any individual who comes is also able to register to win a furnished house, new truck or trip to Bahamas.

At the end of the drive, visitors can enter

"Santa's Village," where they will find vendors, entertainers and bonfires.

One entertainer is Sandy Johnson, leader of Sunshine Entertainment. However, in "Santa's Village," she goes by her character's name "N'Charge."

"What we do during the holidays is put together characters that children can truly believe in," Johnson said.

With her cast of colorful characters, each equipped with a specific backstory and unique costume, Johnson is able to do just that.

Ribbons, played by Salisbury University Junior, Michelle Cassel, wears a tall green top hat, red and white striped shirt and a big grin. After working in the wrapping department at the North Pole, Cassel said she is happy to be back on the Eastern Shore and out of the frigid cold.

Each character is able to make children and adults laugh together, giving holiday cheer to everyone who passes by. Johnson said looking out for Grinchies is another duty of the cast because there is always one wherever you go.

Surrounding schools are also able to get involved through dance recitals and tree decorating competitions, each giving the festival a strong community feel. College students are allowed a five-dollar discount and can also participate to raise money for their fraternity or sorority, giving incentive for all age groups to join in.



Photo courtesy of Sandy Johnson
A young girl enjoys the wonders of Santa's Village, a part of the Decorating Delmarva event.

Decorating Delmarva is not the light show many would expect. It is built by the community, and its main purpose is to help the community. Mark and Denis Cathell said they hope that with each year the festival will grow and become a main attraction for all of

Delmarva. With an inspiring cause, great holiday cheer and already over one thousand visitors a night, Decorating Delmarva is off to an extraordinary start.

Students, faculty discuss acceptance of tattoos in professional workplace

BY DIANA LEWIS
Staff Writer

From a simple ankle heart to an elaborate facial design, few things can change a person's appearance like a tattoo.

The number of inked bodies in the United States continues to increase. About 20 percent of Americans have tattoos, according to a 2012 Harris poll.

As more and more tattoos show up on the skin of many Americans, the question about their appropriateness in the professional world is raised, and whether it is small and hidden, or large and showing, tattoos can have an effect on those who are in the professional world.

Tattoo popularity has exploded and it is becoming more common to see professionals with tattoos than in previous years. Yet despite the popularity of tattoos, Salisbury University Career Services Advisor Gloria maintains that visible tattoos are inappropriate in the business world.

"Many careers in the professional industry do not appreciate visible tattoos," she said. "People need to think about how to cover their tattoos with the profession they intend on going into."

Tattoos do not represent companies very well and are usually asked to be covered if they are visible, and research has shown that having uncovered tattoos in the professional world lessens the chance for people to get better jobs.

In a 2011 study by Careerbuilder.com, 42 percent of managers said their opinion of a potential employee

would be lowered because of visible body art, and 76 percent said they believe visible tattoos are unprofessional.

SU freshman Francis Malone, who has a large tattoo of a cardinal across his back, said he disagrees with the fact that tattoos have an effect on those entering into the professional field.

"It is a travesty that people look down on those who decide to cover their body with art," he said.

Malzone said a person's body is their own art project, and that they should be allowed to put whatever they wish on their body and it should have no effect on whether they get a job or not.

SU student Jessica Rowlands, who has a quote with butterflies decorating her shoulder, said she believes tattoos should be accepted in the workplace.

"I feel that tattoos should be allowed to an extent," she said. "It should not impact your view on a person's work ability. It really depends on what the tattoo is and if it is appropriate."

Rowlands said tattoos that mean something should not have a negative impact on the way a person is viewed when it comes to the professional world.

Horner added that some careers in the professional world, like artsy ones, would appreciate visible tattoos more than in careers in accounting or law.

As tattoos become popular in society, the popularity within the professional industry gradually continues to decrease. The overall consensus about tattoos in the field is to not have any. With the popularity growing though, tattoos in the professional field are becoming more accepted, as long as they are fully covered.

Debate continues on gay marriage

BY LAUREN BOYD
Staff Writer

Even after the results of the election have made Maryland another state that accepts gay marriage, the issue is still being discussed by many.

Author and activist John Corvino, who has been called "The Gay Moralizer," traveled to Salisbury University on Tuesday to speak on "The Meaning of Gay Marriage." Although same-sex marriage is often a controversial topic that can provoke arguments, Corvino approached it with an easygoing attitude by adding humor to his lecture.

"Don't think I didn't notice your school set me up for lodging in Fruitland," Corvino joked. "I mean come on, not very subtle Salisbury."

The lecture was enhanced by a slideshow presentation that demonstrated about 10 different arguments commonly discussed on the con side of the same-sex marriage debate, which Corvino presented and then explained why he believes they are wrong. SU senior Steph Watson said she appreciated this type of approach.

"I really liked that he presented both arguments because I feel like with a lot of debates I've seen on gay marriage [the speaker] is so quick to say 'Oh this is why I'm right,' but [Corvino] even went against some of his colleagues," she said. "I think that's a really great approach because it really makes you see that he's really trying to understand all sides of the argument and that he's very educated."

Corvino said the debate is not about same-sex couples who are seeking something different than what straight couples have. It shouldn't be considered a "gay marriage," because people don't ask for a "gay license." Same-sex couples aren't asking for special rights; they're asking to marry the person they love.

Although the number of states that have granted the rights for same-sex marriage is gaining momentum, Corvino urged the audience not to just sit back and let the fight for same-sex marriage stop there.

"It's a big country out there and we still have over 40 states that don't have marriage equality," he said. "Even here in Maryland there are plenty of people who voted against the referendum and those people's support are important as well. We need to keep the dialogue going because it's one thing for the state to let you marry, but it's another thing for your parents to show up at your wedding and be

happy for you. Both of those things are important."

SU senior Samuel Wright said understanding same-sex marriage is about acceptance.

"We're all human beings and no matter what we believe it's an issue that really is very important to us," Wright said. "We really need to see what's keeping us from agreeing on the issue of gay marriage."

Corvino also addressed the argument that same-sex marriage would be bad for children. He said this is the worst kind of argument, because same-sex marriage never takes children away from their biological parents who want them. It takes the children who are being denied the stability of a family and provides them with a loving home. Corvino pleaded to his audience to take action and help others become educated on the issue. He suggested attending forums and reading up on the issue. While many people are hesitant to read text on the issue because they believe it's being presented with a biased opinion, Corvino proved this isn't always the case. His book "Debating Same-Sex Marriage" is actually co-written by Maggie Gallagher, a panelist speaker who spoke at SU earlier this semester against gay marriage.

Although the decision has been made for Maryland, a lot more is still being done to get information on same-sex marriage out not only in the states that haven't passed this law yet, but also Maryland and other states that have passed the law.

At SU, the issue of acceptance still remains. Bisexual Transgender Gay Lesbian and Straight Supporters member Rachel Sapienza, who said she has identified as bisexual since she was a little girl, said one of the reasons she chose to come to SU was that the school already had a club in place.

"As I grew, I knew that there was something off about me and, as I grew, I learned to hide it," Sapienza said. "Small-town Ohio still isn't the most progressive place in the country, and it certainly wasn't thirteen or fourteen years ago."

Sapienza said she has since become comfortable enough to be herself on SU's campus.

"All relationships are built on trust, gay or straight," she said. "Communities are built on trust as well. Individuals have to trust the community in order to be themselves and to be happy. That's what this club is all about; we want to foster a place for everyone - gay, straight, and everything in between - to be comfortable and receive support."

Photo by Diana Lewis
SU freshman Francis Malone proudly bears a large tattoo of a cardinal and a tree across his back.



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ADVENTURES ABROAD



Photo by Corey Nethen
Protestors in the streets of Spain fight against unfavorable government policies aimed at reducing the country's debt.

BY COREY NETHEN
Staff Writer

Fireworks illuminated the pitch-black sky as an ear-splitting boom echoed through the streets of downtown Málaga.

Thousands of civilians gathered to march down the street, bringing along elderly family members, babies in strollers and barking dogs. Smiling couples waved to others whom they recognized on the sides of the busy street as they blew the bright green whistles hanging around their necks. The spirit here was undeniable, but this was no celebration.

On Nov. 14, Spain was one of many European countries to participate in a 24-hour general strike

called together by various trade unions representing the Spanish Socialist Workers Party (PSOE). A large number of businesses refused to open their doors and transportation services were running at a minimum.

It's widely known that the country is experiencing serious economic strife. This November, the Spanish Labor Ministry reported a 10.8 percent monthly rise in unemployment, resulting in a total of 4.8 million people searching desperately for work of any kind.

If you're wondering how the young people here are faring, it's equally pitiful. The National Statistical Institute (INE) reported that unemployment for Spanish civilians younger than 25 has now reached

52 percent.

My friend, Ektor, manages an Irish pub in a popular plaza nearby and claims that every day he witnesses up to six people, resume in hand, looking for unspecified work despite their college diploma.

But why strike, you ask? In summary, it is the public's response to Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's tactics to reduce the amount of money that the country needs to borrow in order to fund its spending. Rajoy aims to do so by approving major cuts in public service, wages and increasing taxes. In turn, these cuts directly affect the lives of millions of Spaniards, their jobs and the wellbeing of their families.

Suicide rates are rising rapidly and many blame the banks. After 2008 property value crashed, making it hard for homeowners to make repayments. The problem here is that the money that the banks lend out is from the international pot, instead of solely coming from their saver's deposits.

I am fully supportive of the idea that these people band together and voice their freedoms and concerns, but not everyone's motives are harm-free. In Málaga, it is extremely common to see promoters of clubs and restaurants pass out small flyers in the city center, but on a day where many expect all businesses to shut their doors, the promoters have a target on their heads.

After the strike began at midnight, a group of young activists spotted one of these marketers and violently beat him. I find it repulsive that those representing this move-

ment would use aimless violence to express their interpretation of its purpose. Among those injured was a Barcelonan woman who will now only be able to see out of her right eye, after losing her left to a projectile during the protests.

Masses of people shouting "Huelga Huelga!" (the Spanish word for strike) stormed into restaurants and bars that were still open after midnight, forcing them to close. Smoke bombs were tossed into bars suspected of having business beyond their partially closed aluminum roll-up door.

Although everyone has their own interpretation of the act of striking,

it's important that the population unite together to voice their discontent with government action. The banks and conservative People's Party government need to collaborate on strategies that will make it possible for that baby being pushed in his stroller to have the opportunity to work when the time comes.

Many of these families in struggle may like the idea of country-wide opposition to government policies, but simply cannot afford to take one single day off work, as every last "céntimo" truly counts in the time of a crisis.



Photo submitted by Corey Nethen
The huelga, or strike, in Spain, allows for people all over the country to leave work and take to the streets in an effort to change national policy.

Students explore French music with recital

BY JASMINE CLAY
Staff Writer

Eleven Salisbury University students were featured in the Great Hall of Holloway Hall last month as they took on French songs through singing and playing the cello and piano.

SU Professor John Wesley Wright served as the artistic director, music and diction coach and program coordinator to create the unforgettable recital. He chose the repertoire and creatively staged the performers so that students sang from the balcony, walked in from the back of the room and ran into the room as they began to sing in a very theatrical manner to match their song.

"Delving into the character of the piece is crucial to a great performance," said Junior vocal major, Michael Pistorio. "I found it really interesting to learn about the history of the piece."

Pistorio said the group began planning the event at the beginning of the semester. "We spend two months studying the text, translations, composers and settings of the pieces," he said. "The professors will not give us something we can't handle, but will give us pieces that challenge us in all possible aspects of performance."

The first section of the recital was a prelude that featured Grace Wheatley playing a Claude Debussy piece on the piano. Following that was a section on French Art Songs, which were set to the text of a poem. Cassidy Korb was the first soprano of the night also featuring Debussy. Breanna Courville sang next, along with Caitlyn Howard and Pistorio.

Seven folk melodies and cabaret songs made up the third section of the recital, featuring voice major Amanda Lundsroff and professor Tara Gladden.

A cello performance by Madeleine Clifton made up the fourth section on Romance.

The last section was "To the Opera!" and opened up with a duet by James Carpenter and Pistorio. Next was a song by Leah Wilson, a song by Britany Eaton, a duet by Nathan Gioconda and Pistorio, a duet by Howard and Korb and a song by Anne Binkley.

"One cool mark of the program's success was how engaged the audience was from beginning to end, particularly non-music students who were mesmerized and commented that they

were never bored," Wright said. "That says a lot...especially given the stigma surrounding classical music and music in a foreign language."

The performers were assisted by pianists Edgar Isaac and Susan Zimmer. Professors Derek Bowden and Jeffrey Schoyen both served as instructors to the performers.

Pistorio said he and Gioconda both worked on their parts independently over the summer, and then came together in the fall. He also noted that that duet is generally reserved for graduate music students.

"We truly treasure the ability to give this recital," he said. "It's empowering to be able to do justice to the work of these wonderful composers."




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SU bridges Jewish, Israeli culture

BY SAMANTHA STACKHOUSE
Staff Writer

Salisbury University brings Jewish food and Israeli music together for one night that will open minds and broaden horizons Dec. 11.

Before enjoying an exhilarating Israeli concert, students can venture to The Commons Bistro for an international meal featuring Hanukkah-inspired dishes, which will include matzo ball soup, couscous, potato latkes and apple knish.

After dinner, participants can go to Holloway Hall Auditorium to hear Israeli sensation Mika Karni and the Kol Dodi band.

Karni is a trained classical violinist who began playing as a young child. She was then signed to the largest Israeli record company, Helicon, before graduating college. Her first album won her an ACUM prize for Artist of the Year, as she paved her way into the hearts of citizens living in the largest part of the country's music scene.

Her newest project, Kol Dodi, is a musical ensemble of Israeli, Moroccan, Yemenite and Ethiopian musicians and singers. The band's sound combines traditional Jewish melodies with African-Ethnic rhythms with a taste of folk/singer-songwriter qualities.

Karni brings to the stage the first-ever musical version of one of the world's most beautiful love songs, "Shir Ha'Shirim." This project is an enchanting new musical perspective of the original Biblical Psalms, "Shir Ha'Shirim."

Karni composed and re-arranged the original Biblical scriptures into lyrics in order to convey

the original story in a modern, intimate and personal way. This takes the listener through a deep and emotional experience by illustrating the scriptures beautifully. Kol Dodi includes Ori Winokur, Yoni Sharon, Tomer Yeshayahu, Oshrat Masala and Ruth Darion. Winokur plays the alto saxophone, electric guitar and electric bass. Sharon studied international percussion with Master Zohar Fresco and is trained in Arabic and Persian music. Yeshayahu sings and plays the guitar for Kol Dodi. Masala and Darion are both backup singers for Kol Dodi.

After this amazing concert, there will be a reception in the Social Room where you can enjoy refreshments as you socialize with the band.

The SU Office of Cultural Affairs, World's Artist Experience and the Embassy of Israeli are sponsoring the event.

Info Box:
Hanukkah Dinner
The Bistro
Dec. 11, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Concert: Mika Karni & Kol Dodi
Holloway Hall Auditorium
Dec. 11, 7 p.m.

Volume 41 Issue 11

SPORTS

December 4, 2012

Sea Gulls reach end of 2012 season

BY AMY MCFARLAND
Staff Writer

After a 2012 season that included victories, losses and even a hurricane, Salisbury University's fall sports have wrapped up their final results.

Salisbury's No. 4 Field Hockey team (15-3, 4-1) reached the second round of the NCAA Division III Field Hockey Championship Tournament, but fell to the University of Rochester. This ended careers of the five seniors who earned two Capital Athletic Conference titles and the 2009 NCAA DIII Field Hockey Championship.

"We have some very talented players," said Head Coach Dawn Chamberlin. "That was helpful and hurtful all at the same time."

Seniors Amber Holland, Erica Henderson and Kristina Fusco were named to the All-South Team by the National Field Hockey Coaches Association. Holland and Fusco were also named to the Synapse Sports DIII All-American Team. The team began with an 11-game winning streak and progressed to the NCAA tournament for the 28th time in history.

"We lost six starters out of 11 from last year," Chamberlin said. "To be able to come back and have a year where we only have 3 close losses is a great feat in itself."

Salisbury's Men's soccer team (9-7-2, 4-1-1) ended their season in the CAC's tournament semifinal against the University of Mary Washington with a loss of 1-0 in double overtime.

"This season was different because even though we returned our entire starting line-up, we didn't make the tournament and we didn't win the CAC's," said Senior Goalie John Vneshak.

Despite the loss, forward Matt Greene, defensive-mid Chase Humphrey and senior mid-fielder Pat Callahan were named to the All-CAC first team, while mid-fielder Jimmy Mundy and defender Larry Cornish were named to the second team.

"We started out strong in the season, we just weren't able to pull the right results out in the end," said Senior Kyle Simmons.

Salisbury Women's soccer (11-5-2, 5-1) closed out the season in the CAC championship game against Frostburg, falling 4-3 in penalty kicks after a scoreless game and double overtime.

"Last year we had a winning conference championship so that was our goal this year, and we came very close," said Head Coach Jim Nestor.

Seniors Casey Hafford, Erin Mooney, Sarah Pfundstein and Bonnie Sandone made the All-CAC first team along with goalie Michelle Conrad, while Tabitha Brown was named to the second team.

"It was stated that we played the toughest schedule in the nation, so it speaks highly that we still had a winning record," Conrad said.

SU's Men's and Women's Cross Country teams placed third at the CAC Championship in Frostburg and five runners reached the NCAA Division III Midstate Regional Championships.

Freshman Kyle Tockman placed 31st and was named to the All-Region team and given All-Freshman Midstate Region honors. Sophomore Hailey Spinpoint was the women's top finisher at 40th place.

"Not winning conferences was not how we wanted to end the season, but besides that we placed well in our previous races," said Tockman.

The men's team was able to place fourth at the Gettysburg Invitational, and the women's team achieved first place at the Don Cathcart Invitational at Salisbury. Head coach Jim Jones described it as a learning year.

"Already I've seen a difference in attitude and in focus, and that leads me to believe that we'll have a great year in the spring in track and then fall," Jones said.

Volleyball serves up successful season

BY ASHLEY MARTIN
Staff Writer

From the first home game of the season to the National Championship, Salisbury University's Volleyball team had a long road with many accomplishments along the way.

Senior Jenna Shay wrote in her blog on the school's website that the team was full of firsts this season. It was the first time SU hosted the Regionals. It was the first time SU won the Regionals, and it was also the first time SU made it to the National Championship. The journey was long, and even though it did not end with a National win, the team still considers this season their most successful thus far.

"It is so amazing to be able to say that I was part of the first SU volleyball team that made it to Nationals," Shay said. "It was such a huge

accomplishment for our team, and we worked so hard to get there. It really meant a lot to all of us to be able to experience that."

With an overall record of 37-4 and conference record of 6-0, the team showed the fans their values and commitment to hard work. Coach Margie Knight commented that the team had very intense workouts and practices.

"We always had very tough practices in between all of our games, where we would work on things that didn't go as well in the games," Shay said.

They faced many challenges as a team, but they agreed that their game against Juniata College on Sept. 21 was their toughest to overcome. They were down 2-0 heading into the third set of the game, almost facing a 3-0 loss against Juniata. The momentum of the game turned with SU coming back to win

the last three sets.

"That was such a physically and mentally challenging match," said Senior Carley Todd. "We knew we were more disciplined with conditioning and we had a bench with a lot of depth, so if we needed to make changes we could. We just stayed the course and played volleyball."

Shay also commented on the game and said that even though it was their hardest game this season, it was still the most exciting and fun.

"Salisbury volleyball had never beaten Juniata before so that game was definitely one of the most memorable for us," Shay said.

The team appreciated the support from the fans and community throughout the season. Since it was their first time to host Regionals, many attended the game and cheered on the team. Coach Knight

and others from the team believe that a portion of their success is due to playing on their own court and being surrounded by fans.

"The fans that came out to support us during those three games were so amazing," Shay said. "They were so loud and that really helped to get us more excited and pumped during the games, especially if we were down in points."

Even after winning the Juniata game, the team still believes their biggest accomplishment this season was becoming Regional champions and making it to Nationals. It was a proud moment winning the Regional championship on their own court and being announced as champions in front of their family, friends, fans, and Salisbury community.

"We were the first SU volleyball team to achieve that goal and to be able to do it on our home court in

front of all of our fans was one of the best feelings I have ever had," Shay said.

Coach Knight said she was very proud of her players and of all the hard work they put into this season. She watched them overcome each obstacle and challenge and is happy to say she was a part of this winning team.

"I'm proud of the way our team responded to so many court challenges from the Juniata game, to being down two sets, to having our back up against the wall versus Eastern, and battling back to win the Regional Championship," Knight said. "Off the court, the work this team did lasted, and this semester we supported all our Sea Gull teams."

As they look back on the results of 2012, many Gulls share Jones's positive outlook on the 2013 season.

"Overall, the skies are bright," Conrad said.

Football shines on national stage

By Justin Odendhal
Photo Editor



File photo
Sophomore slotback Isiah Taylor rushes for a touchdown in a game during the 2012 season.

For the third straight year, the Salisbury University Football team found themselves on the national stage and in title contention.

Despite losing to Widener University in the second round of the NCAA playoffs, the Gulls have a season of success and personal accolades to be proud of.

Senior quarterback Dan Griffin of Jarrettsville, Md, headed the Sea Gull offense for the third season. A dual threat in Coach Sherman's offense, Griffin completed the season with 958 yards through the air and another 610 on the ground, earning him a second team Empire 8 spot.

Completing the triple option, seniors Ross Flanigan and Joe Benedetti finished with 572 yards and 1,168 yards respectively. Benedetti's angry running style earned him both a second team Empire 8 spot, as well as the opportunity to play in the Tazón de Estrellas, where he will play against the CONADEIP All Stars in Mexico.

On the defensive side, the Gulls found themselves stacked in the linebacker position and in the secondary. Sophomore linebacker Steven Gamble led the team in total tackles with 79; senior Matt McMurdo was right behind with 73.

A secondary known for swarming the ball and forcing turnovers, junior defensive back Greg Stanton led the unit with seven interceptions to end the year.

Overall, a total of 18 Sea Gulls were recognized on the national level with Empire 8 individual awards, but the team also walked away with the Empire 8 championship.

Just their second year in the Empire 8, the Gulls took until late this season to finally fall to Ithaca College on a cold day in New York. Despite this loss, it was not enough to knock the Gulls out of title talks.

The first round of the NCAA playoffs turned out to be a test for Salisbury, playing Rowan in a tight 17-9 defensive battle highlighted by a bit of luck on the Gulls' side, who fumbled four times but only lost one ball.

Unfortunately, the luck did not follow Salisbury up to Pennsylvania for their match up the next week against Widener University, where they fell 28-7 to the Pride.

Now in the off-season, the Salisbury University Sea Gulls won't have their minds off of football for long. With more than two thirds of his offense graduating, Coach Wood will have his work cut out for him with aspirations to make the NCAA Tournament for the fourth year in a row.

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